

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/041,865

Filing Date: 01/07/2002

Applicant: Malmberg et al.

Entitled: PROCESS FOR THE ISOLATION OF
POLYHYDROXY CYCLIC CARBOXYLIC ACIDS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Date of Deposit: July 29, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Jody K. Prince

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

The Examiner has issued a restriction requirement as follows:

Group I, Claims 1-11, drawn to a process for the production of high purity crystals of phyhydroxy cyclic acids;

Group II, Claim 12, drawn to a high purity PCCA;

Group III, Claims 13-15, drawn to a process for the isolation of PCCA crystals from fermentation products; and

Group IV, Claims 16-17, drawn to a process for the fermentation of a microorganism to form shikimic acid which is further processed to form high purity crystals of shikimic acid.

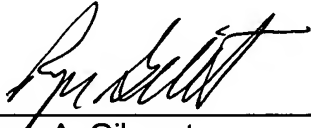
Applicants, with traverse, hereby provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-11, for examination.

Applicants' election is made without prejudice. Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to an additional three species in addition to the elected species, provided that all claims to each additional species are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.141.

An action on the merits of claims 1-11, and a Notice of Allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 28, 2003

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